

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 12 and 14 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus for transferring a micro-volume of liquid, said apparatus having a plurality of units, each unit comprising:
 - a liquid containing section for containing liquid;
 - a liquid introducing section for introducing liquid into said liquid containing section; and
 - a liquid leading out section for leading out the liquid introduced into said liquid containing section,wherein said liquid introducing section of a first unit and said liquid leading out section of a second unit are connected such that a micro-volume of liquid is transferred from the second unit to the first unit, with each liquid leading out section having energy application means for applying energy for ejecting the liquid, and
wherein each said unit can be connected to and disconnected from the liquid transfer apparatus ~~in a cassette-like manner~~ like a cassette.
2. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least either said liquid introducing section or said liquid leading out section of said

first unit has a sealing material for maintaining a liquid-tightness when it is connected to said liquid leading out section or said liquid introducing section of said second unit.

3. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said liquid containing section includes processing means for heating, condensing, agitating, mixing or causing a chemical or biochemical reaction of the liquid introduced from said liquid introducing section.

4. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said liquid leading out section has a check valve.

Claim 5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer according to claim 1, wherein said liquid containing section has a plurality of liquid introducing sections, and further comprising means for mixing a first liquid introduced from one of said liquid introducing sections and a second liquid introduced from another one of said liquid introducing sections.

Claims 7 and 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising analyzing means for analyzing a specific component contained in a mixture solution mixed by said mixing means.

10. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said analyzing means is detection means for detecting the specific component.

Claim 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a connection/disconnection section for connecting each said unit together ~~in a cassette-like manner~~ like a cassette.

13. (Previously Presented) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said energy application means comprises a thermal jet system or a piezo jet system.

14. (Currently Amended) A liquid transfer apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said connection/disconnection section includes a first member having a recess on said first unit and a second member having a projection on said second unit, with the projection to be received in the recess of said first unit ~~in a cassette-like manner~~ like a cassette.